

## **Glossary of Terms**

Antiviral medications Medications presumed to be effective against potential

pandemic influenza virus strains and which may prove useful for treatment of influenza-infected persons or for prophylactic treatment of persons exposed to influenza

to prevent them from becoming ill.

Avian influenza (bird flu) Bird flu is an infection caused by avian (bird) influenza

viruses. These viruses occur naturally among birds. Wild birds worldwide carry the viruses, but do not usually get sick. However, bird flu is very contagious among birds and can make some domesticated birds—chickens, ducks, and turkeys—very sick and

even kill them.

**Avian influenza H5N1** A novel influenza A subtype highly pathogenic to birds

and where direct avian-to-human transmission has occurred and led to severe human disease. H5N1 is of particular concern because a pandemic may result if the subtype acquires the ability to be transmitted easily

from person to person.

**Case fatality ratio** Proportion of deaths among clinically ill persons.

**Children** Children are defined as 17 years of age or younger.

Clinically ill Those persons who are infected with pandemic

influenza and show signs and symptoms of illness.

**Community mitigation** A strategy for implementation at the community level that is designed to slow or limit the transmission of

pandemic virus.

**Continuity of Operations** 

Plan (COOP)

Continuity of Operations Plan is a business' or organization's plan to ensure the continuation of essential functions through a wide range of

emergencies and disasters.

**Cough etiquette** Covering the mouth and nose while coughing or

sneezing; using tissues and disposing in no-touch receptacles; and washing of hands often to avoid

spreading an infection to others.

Early, targeted, and layered

non-pharmaceutical

interventions (NPIs) strategy

A strategy for using combinations of selected community-level NPIs implemented early and

consistently to slow or limit community transmission of

a pandemic virus.



**Epidemic** An outbreak of a disease that spreads more quickly

and more extensively among a group of people than

would normally be expected.

Hand hygiene Hand washing with either plain soap or antimicrobial

soap and water or use of alcohol-based products (gels, rinses, foams containing an emollient) that do not

require the use of water.

**Infection control**Hygiene and protective measures to reduce the risk of

transmission of an infectious agent from an infected person to uninfected persons (e.g., hand hygiene, cough etiquette, use of personal protective equipment, such as face masks and respirators, and disinfection).

**Influenza pandemic** A worldwide epidemic caused by emergence of a new

or novel influenza strain to which humans have little or no immunity and which develops the ability to infect and be transmitted efficiently and sustainably between

humans.

**Isolation of ill people**Separation or restriction of movement of persons ill

with an infectious disease in order to prevent

transmission to others.

**Non-pharmaceutical** Mitigation measure implemented to reduce the spread **intervention (NPI)** of an infectious disease (e.g., pandemic influenza) but

one that does not include pharmaceutical products, such as vaccines and medicines. Examples include social distancing (e.g., school closures) and infection

control measures.

Pandemic vaccine

Vaccine for a specific influenza virus strain that has evolved the capacity for sustained and efficient

human-to-human transmission. This vaccine can only

be developed once the pandemic strain emerges.

Personal protective PPE is any type of clothing, equipment, or respiratory equipment (PPE) protection device (respirators) used to protect workers

against hazards they encounter while doing their jobs. PPE can include protection for eyes, face, head, torso, and extremities. Gowns, face shields, gloves, face

masks and respirators are examples of PPE commonly used within healthcare facilities. When PPE is used in a workplace setting to protect workers against

workplace hazards, its use must be consistent with regulations issued by the Occupational Safety and

**Health Administration** 



(http://www.osha.gov/index.html).

**Quarantine** A restraint upon the activities or communication (e.g.,

physical separation or restriction of movement within the community/work setting) of an individual(s) who has been exposed to an infection but is not yet ill to prevent the spread of disease; quarantine may be applied voluntarily (preferred) or on a compulsory

basis dependent on legal authority.

**Seasonal influenza** (flu) Influenza virus infections in familiar annual patterns.

Social distancing Measures to increase the space between people and

decrease the frequency of contact among people.